



A Major Event in

Mine Safety, Mining Legislation and Training

**Wednesday, September 27, 2006
through Friday, September 29, 2006**

Sponsored by

**The Greater
Bluefield
Chamber
of Commerce**

Co-sponsors:

**West Virginia
Coal Association**

**Kentucky Coal
Association**

**Virginia Coal
Association**

**Kanawha Valley
Mining Institute**

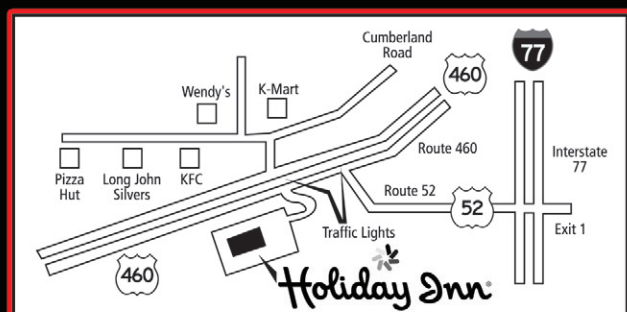
**Pocahontas
Coal Association**

**Tug Valley Mining
Institute**

and

Coal News
Coal's Foremost Publication

Holiday Inn: Exit 1 North or South bound – turn right onto US 52 approximately 2.7 miles make a left at light onto US 460 at the next traffic light turn left. A block of rooms is reserved at the Holiday Inn at the special price of \$82 per night. The block reservation will terminate on September 6. For reservations phone (304) 325-6170 or fax (304) 323-2451 mentioning the Symposium.



Bluefield Coal Symposium

Bluefield, West Virginia has a rich coal heritage dating back to 1881. The Bluefield Coal Show has become one of the premier shows in the United States, playing a critical role in the resurgence of coal by showcasing equipment, technology, and innovation. The next Bluefield Coal Show is in 2007. Every other year the Greater Bluefield Chamber of Commerce sponsors the Bluefield Coal Rally. In view of the tragic coal mining accidents earlier this year, the rally has been extended to become the Bluefield Coal Symposium and is being held at the Holiday Inn, Bluefield, WV.

The opening keynote address will be given by **Don L. Blankenship**, Chairman, President and CEO, Massey Energy. The Sago Mine Disaster Investigation Report will be presented by **Richard Gates**, District Manager, MSHA. **Dr. Larry Grayson**, Chairman of the Mine Safety and Technology Training Commission will present the findings of his Commission. **Governor Manchin** will provide the dinner address. **Dan Gerkin**, Senior Vice President, NMA will present the keynote address at the Friday Session.

The Bluefield Coal Symposium promises to be one of the major events in the coal calendar in 2006.

Bill Reid, Chair, Bluefield Coal Symposium
Randy Deason, Vice Chair, Economic Enhancement Division
Tom Hall, Chairman of the Board

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

1:30 Exhibitors Set-Up
Golf Tee Times Available (see next page)
5:00 Registration
6:00 Reception: Heavy Hors D'oeuvres
7:00 Welcome
7:05 "Bluefield Coal Show, Since 1939" by Charles A. Peters, General Chairman, Bluefield Coal Show
7:20 Keynote Address: "The Gravity of Coal" by Don L. Blankenship, Chairman, President and CEO of Massey Energy

Thursday, September 28, 2006

8:00 **Session 1: Mine Safety - Sago Accident**
11:30 Adjourn for Lunch
12:00 Lunch
12:00 Welcome by Tom Hall, Chairman of the Board and Introduction of Luncheon Speaker Ronald G. Stovash, Senior Vice President Operations, CONSOL Energy, Inc., who will speak on "Marketing Coal - To America"
1:30 **Session 2: Mine Safety - Technology and Training**
5:00 Adjourn
6:00 Reception
7:00 Dinner
8:00 Address by West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin, III

Friday, September 29, 2006

8:00 **Session 3: Mining Legislation and Training**
11:30 Adjourn (Exhibitors Dismantle)

SESSIONS

Thursday, September 28

Session 1 - Mine Safety - Sago Accident

- "Accident Investigations, Putting the Puzzle Together" by Ray McKinney, Administrator for Coal Mine Safety and Health, MSHA, Arlington, Virginia
- "The Sago Mine Disaster Investigation" by Richard Gates, District Manager, District 2, MSHA, Birmingham, Alabama
- "West Virginia Perspective" Ron Wooten, Director, State of West Virginia Office of Miners' Health Safety and Training
- "Mine Rescue, A Focus on the Future" by Allen Dupree,

Assistant District Manager, District 5, MSHA, Norton, Virginia

- "Mine Emergency Communication Systems Partnership - An Update" by Jeff Welsh, Deputy Director, NIOSH Pittsburgh Research Laboratory

Session 2 - Mine Safety - Technology and Training

- "Underground Machinery Crushing and Pinning Type Accidents - Potential Proximity Saves" by Juliette E. Hill, Mining Engineer, Quality Assurance and Materials Testing Division, MSHA, Arlington, VA
- "Making Underground Mining Machinery Safer with Proximity Protection" by Mark Skiles, Director of Technical Support, MSHA, Arlington, VA
- "Mine Safety Technology and Training Commission Report" by Dr. R. Larry Grayson, Chairman of the Commission, and Chair of the Department of Mining and Nuclear Engineering at the University of Missouri - Rolla.

The Commission was established by the National Mining Association in the wake of the tragic January Mine Accident at Sago in West Virginia. The Commission members created five separate subcommittees tasked with exploring specific mine safety topics. Grayson will present in detail the Commission's recommendations in an interactive presentation with the audience.

- Process for Achieving High Level Safety Performances
- Communications Technology
- Emergency Response and Mine Rescue Procedures
- Training for Preparedness
- Escape and Protection Strategies

Friday, September 29

Session 3 - Mining Legislation and Training

- "The View in Washington" by Dan Gerkin, Senior Vice President of Government and Political Affairs, NMA
- "West Virginia Coal - We're Getting Better" by Bill Raney, President, West Virginia Coal Association
- "Coal Counts in Kentucky" by Bill K. Caylor, President Kentucky Coal Association
- "Virginia Coal Regulation - A Traditional Approach with a Forward Look" by Tommy Hudson, President The Virginia Coal Association, Inc.
- "Retreat Mining Practices, Can Additional Training Improve Safety, An Update" by John Feddock, P.E., Senior Vice President, Marshal Miller & Associates, Inc.
- Concluding Remarks

the 2006 Coal Calendar



Gov. Joe Manchin, III
Dinner Address



BLUEFIELD COAL SYMPOSIUM

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Don L. Blankenship
Keynote Address



Dr. R. Larry Grayson
Mine Safety Report



Dan Gerkin
View from Washington



Ray McKinney
Accident Investigations



Jeff Welsh
Communications Partnership



Mark Skiles
Proximity Protection



Allen Dupree
Mine Rescue



Bill Raney
West Virginia



Bill K. Caylor
Kentucky



John Feddock, PE
Retreat Mining

Symposium - Bluefield, WV • Golf - Bluefield, VA

Bluefield Coal Symposium Golf - Fincastle Country Club

Wednesday, September 27 - Tee Times Available

Treat yourself to a round of golf at the beautiful but demanding links at Fincastle County Club in Bluefield, Virginia. Accuracy is a must on this tight 18-hole, par 70 course. The small greens pose additional challenges due to their slope and speed. Difficult pin placements and numerous sand traps will quickly punish any errant shot. Call (276) 322-4342 to set your tee time for a great afternoon.



Greater Bluefield Chamber of Commerce

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